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News Release

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Contact: Kimberly Rea

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301 Riverlands Way, West Alton, MO 63386 Phone: 636-899-2600 Fax 636-899-2655

Hunting on Federal lands

WEST ALTON, MO, November 16, 2004 - Fall means more than colorful leaves and dropping temperatures to public lands managers. It also marks the beginning of hunting season.

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) reminds outdoor enthusiasts to follow all state and local wildlife regulations when afield. A large majority of federal lands are open for public hunting during open seasons, but not all lands. It is important for those wishing to hunt on federal lands to contact the appropriate agency before hunting if they are unclear about regulations or lands open for hunting.

There are some tracts that require hunters to obtain a special permit before hunting.

One area requiring special permits is the Chain of Rocks/Chouteau Island Hunting Area.

Another area is the Melvin Price Waterfowl Refuge Area that is closed to hunters at all times. This area covers 3700 acres and is comprised of all land and water from mile marker 197.7 to mile marker 203. This refuge area includes the Riverlands Environmental Demonstration Area and Maple Island, which consists of one large island and three smaller islands to the south.

Several citations have already been issued to hunters violating regulations and hunting on Maple Island. We encourage those hunting federal lands to follow regulations to ensure that their experience is enjoyable. Please call the Rivers Project Office at 636-899-2600 for questions or more information.